

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/084,886

Examiner

Cynthia Hamilton

Applicant(s)

OISHI, HISAO

Art Unit

1752

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 6/29/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8, 12-19.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 6/29/2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

  
**CYNTHIA HAMILTON**  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Cynthia Hamilton  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 1752

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. **An examiner's amendment to the record appears below.** Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 9-11 to an invention non-elected without traverse. Accordingly, claims 9-11 have been cancelled.

Cancel claims 9-11.

2. **The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:**

Claims 1-8 and 12-19 are found allowable over the prior art processes for the following reason:

Suda et al (2002/0000169) teach forming the hydrophobic layer on top of the titanium oxide layer in an imagewise manner then using ultraviolet light to decompose the entire layer to regenerate the titanium oxide hydrophilic surface. There is no imagewise exposure of the hydrophobic layer to UV. In Suda et al, see particularly Fig. 2, and [0012-0021, 0028-0030, 0052, 0054, 0060-0061, 0065-0071, 0074, 0083, 0095, 0102, 0105, 0112, 0115, 0124]. The method of forming the hydrophobic image in Suda et al does not make obvious the instant method of image formation.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. **The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.** Suda et al (2004/0129159 A1) discloses a process similar to that of applicants but the date of Suda et al fails to make it prior art. It is the Second Embodiment starting at [0072] of Suda et al that is of interest. The claims of Suda et al do not specify imaging at the instant "far-ultraviolet light having a wavelength of 250 to 320 nm" as required in all of the instant processes. In [0017] of Suda et al is found that for the photocatalyst conventional techniques of using ultraviolet light (having an wavelength of 380 nm or shorter). With respect to the actual activating energy used in the second embodiment, Suda et al in [0081] discloses using the same as the First embodiment. The first embodiment in [0034] discloses using between 380 nm through 600 nm. Thus, the examiner sees no issue of interference with the claims present in Suda et al and the allowed claims in this application.

4. The drawings were received on June 29, 2004. These drawings are acceptable.

*Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cynthia Hamilton whose telephone number is 571-272-1331. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 9:30 am to 5:00 pm.*

*If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cynthia H Kelly can be reached on (571) 272-0729. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.*

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*Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).*



Cynthia Hamilton  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1752

**CYNTHIA HAMILTON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

September 4, 2004